## **Media Contact:**

Stephanie Sox; 803-734-2196; ssox@scda.sc.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE- January 23, 2017

## Applications Now Available for 2017 SC Commissioner's School for Agriculture

**COLUMBIA-** Rising high school juniors and seniors can now apply for this year's South Carolina Commissioner's School for Agriculture (SCCSA), held at Clemson University, July 22-28, 2017.

SCCSA is a premier summer academic program coordinated by the South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA) and Clemson University's College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences. Students are exposed to academic offerings and potential careers in agriculture and natural resources through workshops, field studies, and laboratories.

The program covers broad topics in agriculture as well as emphasis areas for technical and career specific information. The school also includes trips to Clemson University Research Farms and Experimental Forest, a whitewater rafting trip down the Chattooga River, and a Certified SC Farm to Table dinner.

The SC Commissioner's School for Agriculture is in its 14<sup>th</sup> year and has graduated 465 students from the program. Of our alumni, 76% are currently studying or studied agriculture in college and 40% are working in an agriculture field.

Applications are available online at clemson.edu/cafls/sccsa and must be post marked by March 31, 2017. For information about SCCSA, contact Clemson's Katie Black at 864-656-6662 or hulse@clemson.edu, or SCDA's Elizabeth Wood at 803-734-0328 or ewood@scda.sc.gov.

###